Annual Dues: $30.00
Count me in!
Name: ____________________________
Address: __________________________
City: ____________________________ Zip: _________________
Phone: __________________________
E-mail: __________________________

Your membership includes our news magazine, *The Razor Wire* (published twice a year), with special notifications and daily updates on our website at www.november.org.

Your membership supports important work.

Working to end drug war injustice!

Annual Dues: $30.00

November Coalition is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Your contributions are tax-deductible.

Additional Contribution: _______________________
Total Enclosed: _______________________

The November Coalition
November Coalition Foundation
282 West Astor • Colville, WA 99114
Ph/Fx: (509) 684-1550 • www.november.org

Incarcerated Americans
1920 — 2005

In 1971 Richard Nixon declared a 'War on Drugs'

Federal Prisoners, by Offense — 2003

Drug Public Order Property Other

Graph data sources: (left) The New Landscape of Imprisonment: Mapping America's Prison Expansion, from The Urban Institute; (right) US Bureau of Justice Statistics Bulletin NCJ210677: Prisoners in 2004

(Below) Children in Putumayo, Colombia painted a "before and after" mural (below) describing effects of U.S. aerial coca fumigation on their communities.
The Drug War: It’s Prisons, Poisons and Environmental Racism

The November Coalition was founded in 1997 to warn fellow citizens about the destructive increase in prison populations in the United States caused by more than 20 years of harsh drug sentencing laws and dubious policing techniques. The Coalition built alliances with groups all over the world because drug war injustice is global.

Drug war battles aren’t fought on the streets of the wealthy. Drugs, legal and illegal, are used in all classes of people, and at about the same rates.

Prisons and jails aren’t built in upper-class neighborhoods either. So-called “Correctional Complexes” are being built in rural areas where workers are so desperate for jobs they are reduced to working in warehouses for people. In other eras, mass imprisonment employed ‘disposable populations’ or ‘undesirables’ as slave workers in concentration camps.

In Colombia and now Afghanistan, the people living gentle on the earth, the sustainable farmers, can be sprayed with poisons that kill fish in streams, livestock, food crops and human life. Like the jobless and poor of the United States, people who are economically vulnerable become easy prey for drug manufacturers. Not unlike prison profiteers, the drug trade relies on desperate people who need jobs and an economic future.

People can be convicted in broad drug conspiracies and sentenced to prison for decades without any physical evidence presented in court. Drug war enforcement relies heavily on ‘bartered testimony,’ wherein the first people arrested in a group of drug-involved friends can ‘snitch’ their way to freedom by telling on others. Without a system of easily obtained plea bargains and convictions, prisons could not be profitable.

Corporate profits increase sharply with the use of herbicide defoliants, a growing global military force, and steady expansion of multi-agency policing that fills an international network of prisons. Power to control large human populations, primarily poor classes of people, and the destruction of natural resources form a steady and cozy weave in globalization strategy.

The drug war is institutionalized and is devastating environmental racism that needs urgent citizen action.

How you can Help:

- Volunteer to table using this display!
- Write letters to the editor exposing these issues for public discourse.
- Call or visit elected representatives with a group of friends or family.
- Form a group to oppose new prisons in your region.

If you don’t belong to a group that has a No New Prisons committee, or is working to end drug war injustice, consider starting one. We have organizing instructions on our website at www.november.org called Bottoms Up: Guide to Grassroots Activism.

You may easily find others who will work with you to increase pressure on local and state governments, and then combine that united influence on federal lawmakers as well. Plan to teach other people you know, one by one, day by day, about the environmental racism of the war on drugs. Ask them to become members of the November Coalition, too.

Aerial spraying of coca crops in Colombia. Overwhelming evidence suggests pilots are not spraying with the precision the US embassy claims.

With an annual membership contribution of $30 or more, you will receive The Razor Wire, the November Coalition’s newspaper published twice a year. All year long you’ll also receive individual notices of website updates, breaking news and announcements about projects that our national network of volunteers uses to teach about drug war injustice. Dues and donations are tax deductible.

Please visit us online at www.november.org and remember the November Coalition in your charitable giving. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Online References:

Information on stopping prison expansion in your community is at www.nonewprisons.org

The hidden costs of prisons are revealed, compared and evaluated at www.realcostofprisons.org

An informational website offering research data and projections on vital criminal justice issues in Washington State at www.wsipp.wa.gov

2004 Washington State University research reveals few benefits to rural areas where prisons are built: www.wsunews.wsu.edu/detail.asp?StoryID=4651


To help you get started as a local organizer, Bottoms Up: Guide to Grassroots Activism gives practical suggestions, instructions and includes check-off lists: www.november.org/BottomsUp

A full discussion and legal analysis of drug war snitching: www.november.org/razorwire/2005-02/Nataoff.html and www.november.org/Snitch

The United States Sentencing Commission’s 15-Year Assessment at www.ussc.gov/15_year/15year.htm

A layperson’s look at the USSC 15-Year Assessment is at www.november.org/razorwire/2005-01/Hidden.html

Download this brochure in color at: www.november.org/projects/EarthFlyer.pdf

An estimated 1 of every 20 Americans (5%) can expect to serve time in prison. For African-American men, that number is greater than 1 in 4 (28.5%). Source: US Bureau of Justice Statistics